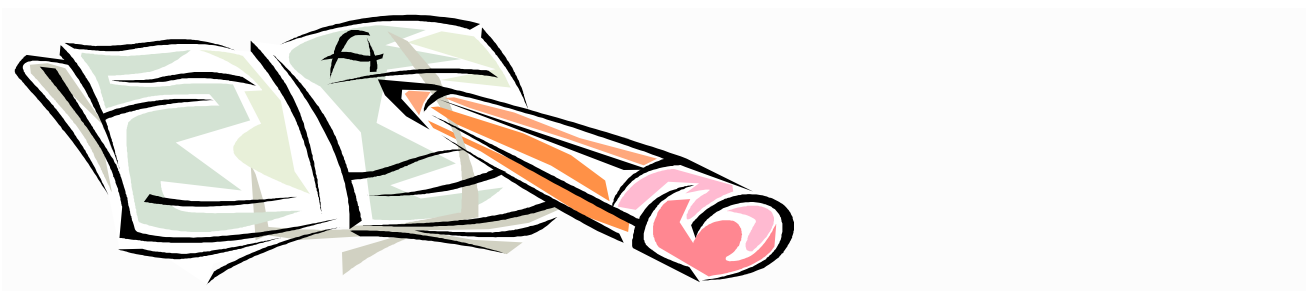


Introduction to Child Advocacy

Volunteer Workbook



This workbook is designed to capture your understanding of the Introductory Training material. **Please provide the completed workbook to your Local Coordinator that interviewed you.**



The icon will appear in the training material guide to indicate an activity you will need to complete in this workbook.

1. Getting started

What are two reasons you decided to become CASA or FCRB volunteer?

Reason #1:

Reason #2:

Optional Reason #3 *I'm not sure yet, I hope this training will help me decide.*

2. Our history and mission

Why did Judge Soukup want to establish the CASA program?

Has the CASA program been successful in Iowa? If yes, what historically supports your thoughts?

The National Court Appointed Special Advocate program has 5 strategic objectives. How can your work as a CASA or Foster Care Review Board member support these objectives?

In your own words, describe the mission of the Foster Care Review Board. How is their work different from the CASA role?

Do CASA's make a difference? Why or why not?

List 4 things CASA's do in their role.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

3. Guiding principles of advocacy

What are the two key guiding principles in advocacy?

- 1.
- 2.

Why do you think there is no concise legal definition for "best interest of the child?"

As a CASA or FCRB volunteer -- when thinking about the best interest principle -- what do you think you will need to keep in mind when gathering information from the child, parents and other interested parties to the case?

How do you feel your definition of Minimum Sufficient Level of Care (MSL) may differ from the legal definition?

How do you believe the culture you grew up in might compare and contrast to a different type of community or culture regarding (MSL)? For example, a large city, small farm community, another county?

4. Permanency: A child's right.

What does the term “family” mean to you?

Who do you call family? Who provides most of the care? Who is responsible for you and your well being?

In the video, Kadia's Story, a legal, permanent home was not found. How was Kadia able to have a sense of permanency? Is this ending “good enough”?

5. Concurrent planning

Please describe concurrent planning.

How can you, as a volunteer, support concurrent planning?

What are two potential benefits of Family Team Meetings?

- 1.
- 2.

What questions do you have at this time?